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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,275	07/11/2001	Scott Forstall	04860.P2674	2060

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EXAMINER

ALAM, SHAHID AL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2162

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,275

Applicant(s)

FORSTALL ET AL.

Examiner

Shahid Al Alam

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18,22-39,43-60 and 64-107 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18,22-39,43-60 and 64-107 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 18 October 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the reasons given below:

Applicant's main argument is that APA does not have an indicator. Examiner respectfully disagrees as argued.

Applicant gave several explanations about an indicator and how APA distinguishes with respect to instant claims. However, Applicant failed to show whether an indicator is a selector or an extension of a file. If Applicant is thinking an indicator is an extension of a file, then APA clearly teaches this limitation and if an indicator is not an extension of a file and is a selector, then APA on page 1 lines 10 – 12, teaches this selector (***a user interface associates a type of files with an application program so that a standard user operation on one of the files starts the associated application program to operate on that file, such as a mouse click; . . .***).

Applicant's claim language is not clear enough as to the meaning of an indicator.

Examiner is entitled to give claim limitations their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the specification.

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation

During patent examination, the pending claims must be 'given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.' Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541,550-51 (CCPA 1969).

Furthermore, with respect to new claims 99 – 107, the Boezeman reference (USPAT 6,012,068) teaches in column 7, lines 13 – 24, “For obtaining input from a user, the operating system 21, the application 22 or both may utilize user input devices 24. User input devices 24 may include a pointing device 25 and a keyboard 26 or other input devices known to those of skill in the art. User input devices 24 may be used to provide user input to the application or operating system to control the operation of the computer system 15. Output devices in addition to the display device 23 may also be provided for providing additional output to a user. For example, a sound device and speakers may be utilized to provide audio to a user.

For the above reasons, Examiner believed that rejection of the last Office action was proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1 – 8, 10 – 18, 22 – 29, 31 – 39, 43 – 50, 52 – 60, 64 – 71 and 73 – 98 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by the Applicants Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter “APA”).

With respect to claim 1, APA discloses a method of managing file extensions in a digital processing system with a user interface and a plurality of files, each file having a name that comprises a filename and an extension (page 2, lines 9 – 15 and Figure 2), said method comprising:

associating a file with an indicator which is user selectable for a single file in the plurality of files in said digital processing system (page 2, lines 19 – 23) and which indicates how to display an extension of the file (page 2, line 15); and

displaying a displayed name of the file in the user interface in a style determined by said indicator (page 2, lines 19 – 22).

As to claim 2, the style is such that the displayed name contains the extension of the file only when said indicator is for showing the extension of the file (page 2, lines 19 – 22).

As to claim 3, said indicator is a bit, a file, an entry in a file, or an entry in a database, wherein said indicator in one state indicates hiding the extension and said indicator in another state indicates showing the extension (page 2, lines 19 – 22).

As to claim 4, if the file is newly created with an automatically appended extension, then said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface (page 2, lines 8 – 11).

As to claim 5, updating said indicator in response to an input event (page 3, lines 7 – 11).

As to claim 6, the input event is that a new name is specified in the user interface for the file (page 3, lines 7 – 11).

As to claim 7, if the new name contains no extension, then said indicator is set to hide the extension of the file in the user interface (page 3, lines 7 – 11).

As to claim 8, only the filename of the file is replaced by the new name so that the extension of the file is not changed (page 3, lines 7 – 11).

As to claim 10, if the new name comprising an extension and a filename, then said indicator is set to show the extension of the file in the user interface (page 2, lines 9 – 15).

As to claim 11, the filename of the file and the extension of the file are replaced by the filename of the new name and the extension of the new name (page 3, lines 4 – 11).

As to claim 12, detecting if a first file that has a first filename and a first extension has a naming conflict with a second file that has a second filename and a second extension,

wherein said first file has a first displayed name in the user interface and said second file has a second displayed name in the user interface (see Figure 3).

As to claim 13, if the first displayed name is the same as the second displayed name, then a naming conflict is detected (see Figure 2).

As to claim 14, if the first filename and the first extension are the same as the second filename and the second extension, then a naming conflict is detected (see Figure 2).

As to claim 15, exporting both the filename of the file and the extension of the file to a remote system when the file is transferred to the remote system (page 3, lines 4 – 6).

As to claim 16, exporting said indicator to the remote system when the file is transferred to the remote system (page 3, lines 4 – 6).

As to claim 17, importing both the filename of the file and the extension of the file from a remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system (page 3, lines 4 – 6).

As to claim 18, importing said indicator from the remote system when the file is transferred from the remote system (page 3, lines 4 – 6).

Claims 22 – 29 and 31 – 39 are essentially the same as claims 1 – 8 and 10 – 18 except that it sets forth the claimed invention as a machine-readable media rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claims 43 – 50 and 52 – 60 are essentially the same as claims 1 – 8 and 10 – 18 except that it sets forth the claimed invention as a digital processing system rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claims 64 – 71 and 73 – 85 are essentially the same as claims 1 – 8 and 10 – 18 except that it sets forth the claimed invention as a processing system rather than a method and rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

With respect to claim 86, APA discloses a processing system comprising:
a processor; a display device coupled to said processor, said display device displaying a user interface (figure 2, item 402); and

a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing in a file container a first file which has a first extension and a first filename (page 2, lines 11 – 13), said memory storing in said file container a second file which has a second filename and a second extension (page 3, lines 4 – 11), said memory storing a first indicator that is specific for said first file and that indicates the first extension is displayed in the user interface in a first style using a first displayed name, said memory storing a second indicator that indicates the second extension is displayed in the user interface in a second style using a second displayed name, said processor detects a conflict in naming the first file and the second file (page 3, line 11 – page 4, line 6).

Subject matter of claims 87 and 88 are rejected in the analysis above in claims 2 – 8 and 10 – 18 and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Subject matter of claims 89 – 98 are rejected in the analysis above in claims 1 – 8 and 10 – 18 and 86 and these claims are rejected on that basis.

With respect to claims 99 – 107, the indicator is not a part of a name of the file (APA discloses on page 1, lines 10 – 12 that a user interface associates a type of files with an application program so that a standard user operation on one of the files starts the associated application program to operate on that file, such as a mouse click; . . .)

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 9, 30, 51 and 72 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shahid Al Alam whose telephone number is (571) 272-4030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 A.M.- 4:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Shahid Al Alam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162

6 March 2005